



RICK AUERBACH



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LOS ANGELES COUNTY ASSESSOR PROVIDES MALIBU/CORRAL FIRE PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

Los Angeles County Assessor Rick Auerbach today began the process to provide property tax relief for homeowners affected by the Malibu/Corral wildfire which destroyed or damaged nearly 90 homes and other structures.

"Sadly, we have once again had to implement procedures which will allow us to identify those structures destroyed or sustaining at least \$10,000 in damage," Auerbach said. "This is done either through our contact with local fire officials or by receiving calamity forms from homeowners impacted by this latest devastation."

"Our top priority will be to make this process as simple as possible and we will actively seek information on addresses and losses," he added. "I also urge anyone with questions to contact us as soon as possible at a special telephone hotline and visit our website for details about a Misfortune and Calamity form which can be downloaded. This form should be submitted to make sure we don't miss any affected property."

A special fire link is available on the department's website at http://assessor.lacounty.gov and Malibu homeowners can also call the hotline at (310) 665-5413. This number will be answered by a Supervising Appraiser and will include voicemail for messages for a callback no later than the next business day.

The State Revenue and Taxation Code, Section 170/Misfortune and Calamity, allows reassessment of property sustaining at least \$10,000 in damage. This process can result in a corrected tax bill or refund. Any adjustment or proration of taxes will be based on the reduction in value from the date of damage through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, or until the structure is repaired or replaced.